

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner objected to the abstract. The abstract has been rewritten to represent a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the patent application.

The Examiner noted that the application has no section headers. They have been added by this response.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5 under 35 USC 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. This ground for rejection is respectfully traversed. The Examiner asserts that claim 1 is not tied to a technology, art, environment or machine. With all due respect, the applicant disagrees. Note the "a Reed-Solomon decoder" in the claim. A decoder has a physical reality and is not some abstract concept. Nevertheless, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the decoder includes "at least six hardware logic functions" which are related to the six tests identified in the subparagraphs (a) - (f) of claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is statutory and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection thereof.

The Examiner is thanked for the allowance of claims 6 - 8.

A new method claim 11 is added.

Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 08-2025. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 08-2025.

Response to Official Action
Dated 28 March 2007
Re: USSN 10/632,123
Page 10

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

May 15, 2007
(Date of Transmission)

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Respectfully submitted,

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